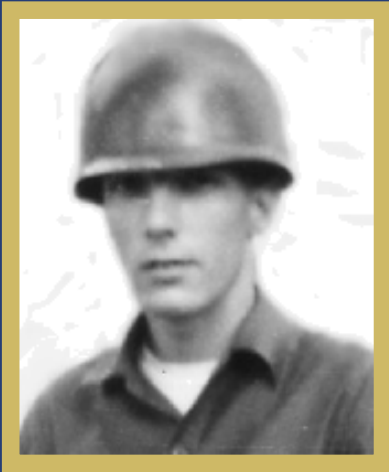


Vietnam War



Cpl. Bruce J. Matta
U.S. Army
Age 21

Born - March 22, 1948 Boston, Massachusetts
Entered Service - April 3, 1968 Canton, Massachusetts

Bruce moved to Canton in time to enter Canton High as a freshman. He lived on Chestnut Road with an older brother and two younger sisters. Bruce enjoyed machine work, so he elected the shop course while at high school and graduated in the class of 1967. He worked for Kessler Machine Shop before and after he graduated. Bruce enlisted in the Army to pursue specialized machinist training but the Army felt there were more pressing matters in Vietnam. Matta shipped out October 31st, 1968. He was wounded six months into his tour but recovered and was sent back to duty a month later. On May 13th 1969, Matta encountered a Viet Cong soldier while point man on a patrol near Chu Chi. He was shot to death when he pursued the enemy. Bruce received two Bronze Stars for valor. A funeral mass was said at the Cathedral of the Holy Cross in Boston in his honor.

Date of Death - May 13th, 1969 Chu Chi, Vietnam
Buried - Saint Benedict Cemetery West Roxbury, Massachusetts

The Healing Wall location ... Panel 25W, Line 106